DAVIES MEDICAL CENTER

November 15, 1995

David Werdegar, M.D., M.P.H.
Director
Health Policy and Planning Division
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
1600 9th Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Werdegar:

We have received the California Hospital Outcomes report and appreciate the opportunity to respond. We acknowledge the Office's significant efforts in improving the presentation of the data and appreciate the favorable ranking.

Statewide data analysis is commendable. We are concerned, however, that without actual numbers of cases and a clear definition of "adverse outcome", such summarized information can mislead the general public. Statisticians have commented that results for facilities such as ours, with a relatively small sample size, are not statistically significant.

Because we believe that outcomes alone do not demonstrate quality of care, Davies Medical Center continues to review and measure data from many identified sources. For benchmarking purposes, the OSHPD Outcomes Report would have been more helpful had it included results from all hospitals in San Francisco including St. Francis, St. Lukes, Chinese and especially the Medical Center at UCSF.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment and to participate in future analyses.

Sincerely,

Greg Monardo

President

Philip J. O'Keek, M.D.

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